



Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet

Durham, NH

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The Town of Durham was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. Located in the southeast corner of New Hampshire, Durham (population 12,664) is home to the University of New Hampshire. The town and university community have a diverse population. Youths make up one third of the town's population, and the poverty rate is nearly 28 percent. The unemployment rate in Durham is 6.7 percent. The Depot Road site is located in the middle of the university campus. It abuts a high-speed rail corridor, a 6,000-seat arena, and the women's athletic fields. The tetrachloroethene contamination at the site poses a threat to students and athletes who play on the fields, visitors who attend university events, and the area's groundwater. The site is considered one of the most contaminated in the state. Cleanup of the site will



Cleanup Grant



\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Town of Durham for a brownfields cleanup grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the quarter-acre Depot Road site. From the 1940s through 1989, the site was occupied by a company that distributed supplies and chemicals to area dry cleaners. Site soil and groundwater are contaminated with tetrachloroethene, a volatile organic compound. Grant funds also will be used to support community involvement activities.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team
617-918-1424

<http://www.epa.gov/region1/brownfields>

Grant Recipient: Town of Durham, NH
603-868-5578

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

reduce risks to human health and the environment and allay the concerns of area neighbors and visitors. Once cleanup is complete, the town plans to reuse the site for a much-needed 161-space parking facility.